

**Pennsylvania High School
Speech League**



**NEWS
BROADCASTING
HANDBOOK**

Revised: October, 2019

Contents

News Broadcasting - Description of Event3
Article B16 –News Broadcasting.....4
Procedures Used at the State Tournament 6
Sample News Broadcasting Script.....7
Ten Suggestions for Preparing Students for News Broadcasting.....9
News Broadcasting Tips10

FORMS can be found in the FORMS SECTION of the PHSSL webpage:

- News Broadcasting - Master Ballot
- News Broadcasting - Critique Sheet

NEWS BROADCASTING

Description of Event

The event of News Broadcasting is open to all PHSSL schools, and every member is invited to participate. This event is held on the State level only, and there is no qualifying procedure except for registering. Description of News Broadcasting is in Article B16, PHSSL Bylaws. Every member school may enter one pair of students in News Broadcasting. There is no charge for name changes in Impromptu, News Broadcasting and Student Congress. A \$50.00 nuisance fee will be assessed for drops.

Students who participated in PHSSL District and/or Regional Tournaments and who did not qualify to the State Tournament may be entered in News Broadcasting.

To register students in News Broadcasting, the coach completes the registration form by the stated deadline. No registrations will be accepted after the deadline date.

Procedures Used at the State Tournament

Since many students are competing in this event for the first time at the State Tournament, the following list of procedures may give you an idea of the way this event is conducted. A few suggestions are also included.

1. After registration, a mandatory meeting of all news broadcasting contestants is held to go over any last minute changes. This meeting also involves a very important role call. The procedures are reviewed, and students may ask questions about any aspect of the competition. This is a big help to most students, as they will be responsible for finding these facilities for each round.
2. Make sure that teams report at least 20 minutes before they are scheduled to compete. Times are available at registration.
3. Each team must have his/her own scripts for the three different topic areas as listed in the rules of the Broadcasting event. Students will also be asked to fill out copies of the ballot.
4. The Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final Round are sight-reading scripts, prepared by the PHSSL staff. The purpose of these rounds is to determine the student's ability to read aloud a script after minimal preparation. These scripts are typical examples of ones that would be read on the air. Approximately fifteen seconds are available for sign-on, segues (transitions), and sign-off.
5. Check the time and place for each sight-reading. Teams should report to the room at least 20 minutes before they are scheduled to compete. **IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT TEAMS ARE NOT LATE FOR THESE ROUNDS- LATENESS WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF PREP TIME.**
6. Teams may want to bring a stop watch or digital watch with to the sight-readings. Although the scripts for the Quarterfinal and Semifinal Rounds are written with the three-minute time limit in mind, teams may want to allow for sign-on, sign-off, and brief transition lines. The Quarterfinal and Semifinal scripts should not be altered in any other way. The Final Round script will need to be edited down to the three-minute time limit.
7. Teams will be given scripts approximately 15 minutes before their scheduled "air time" for the Quarterfinal and Semifinal Rounds, 20 minutes before air time in Final Round. During this preparation period, teams can edit the script (e.g.-- add a sign-on, transition lines, sign-off and cutting to three minutes in the Final Round). However, teams should not make any other changes (e.g.-- adding their own news story into the script).
8. On Saturday morning, all contestants should report to the room listed in the program for the announcement of the quarterfinalists. **MAKE SURE YOU ATTEND THIS ASSEMBLY.** A few times in the past years, chosen students did not compete in the round because they did not attend this meeting.
9. In all rounds a 15-second grace period, both under (2:45) and over (3:15) on time is given to all students with no penalty. If a team is 16 to 30 seconds over or under, it cannot place first but may rank 2-7. If a team is more than 30 seconds over or under, it cannot place in the top 7. Students are ranked 1 through 7. All others are ranked 8.

Sample Script (a two minute script; news broadcasting requires three minute scripts)

HERE IS THE LATEST NEWS...

THE U-S AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL SAYS ISRAELI, PALESTINIAN AND U-S NEGOTIATORS HAVE REACHED A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT OVER A STANDOFF INVOLVING GAZA'S BORDER CROSSINGS.

AMBASSADOR RICHARD JONES SAYS THE STANDOFF HAS CAUSED SEVERE SHORTAGES OF BREAD, MILK, AND OTHER ESSENTIALS IN GAZA.

ISRAEL CLOSED THE KARNI (KAR'-NEE) BORDER CROSSING FOR ALMOST TWO MONTHS BECAUSE OF WHAT IT CALLED SECURITY CONCERNS. JONES SAYS ALL SIDES INVOLVED HAVE AGREED TO OPEN ANOTHER CROSSING, KEREM SHALOM (KEH'-REM, SHAH'-LOAM) AT THE CONVERGENCE OF GAZA, ISRAEL, AND EGYPT. JONES SAYS CARGO TRAFFIC MIGHT START FLOWING TOMORROW.

MEANWHILE, U-S AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ ZALMAY KHALILZAD (Z AHL'-MAY KAH-LEEL'-Z AHD) SAYS DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY ABOUT WHEN HE WOULD MEET WITH IRANIAN OFFICIALS.

HE TELLS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THAT THE TALKS WITH IRAN SHOULD ONLY BE ABOUT IRAQ AND THAT THE TALKS SHOULD NOT BE HELD IN BAQUBA (BAH-KOO'-BAH), TEHRAN, FALLUJAH (FAH-LOO'-JAH), OR TIKRIT (TEEK-REET'), BUT RATHER IN BAGHDAD.

THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION HAS SAID IT WILL DISCUSS THE IRAQ REBELLION WITH IRAN, BUT NOT THAT NATION'S SUSPECTED NUCLEAR PROGRAM.

THE U-S SAYS IRAN IS MEDDLING IN IRAQ, AND PRESIDENT BUSH HAS SAID SOME ROADSIDE BOMBS CONTAIN IRANIAN COMPONENTS.

KHALILZAD SAYS HE HAD NEVER WRITTEN TO OR SPOKEN WITH IRANIAN OFFICIALS ABOUT THE TALKS AND SAYS A DECISION ON WHEN THEY'LL OCCUR IS "STILL BEING DISCUSSED.

FINALLY, CHRONIC HEARTBURN APPEARS TO BE FUELING ESOPHAGEAL CANCER. SOME 3 MILLION AMERICANS ARE THOUGHT TO HAVE A TYPE OF ESOPHAGUS DAMAGE FROM SEVERE ACID REFLUX THAT PUTS THEM AT INCREASED RISK FOR THE DEADLY CANCER — AND NEW RESEARCH IS EXPLORING WHETHER IT'S POSSIBLE TO ZAP AWAY THAT DAMAGE AND BLOCK THE CANCER FROM EVER FORMING.

MANY AMERICANS HAVE WHAT IS KNOWN AS "GASTROESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE" OR GE-R-D, IN WHICH A LOOSE VALVE IN THE STOMACH ALLOWS STOMACH ACID TO EAT AWAY AT THE ESOPHAGUS. WHEN THE ACID KILLS CELLS IN THE ESOPHAGEAL LINING, THE MUSCLE HEALS ITSELF WITH NEW CELLS, WHICH ARE MORE CANCER-PRONE.

IT'S A CONDITION CALLED BARRETT'S ESOPHAGUS. BARRETT'S SUFFERERS ARE AT LEAST 30 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO DEVELOP ESOPHAGEAL CANCER.

GASTROENTEROLOGISTS AROUND THE WORLD ARE MAKING STRIDES TO CURB THE PROLIFERATION OF THIS CANCER.

LAST YEAR, THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION APPROVED A DEVICE THAT SNAKES A BALLOON INSIDE A PERSON'S ESOPHAGUS TO EAT AWAY AT THE BARRETT'S TISSUE.

OTHER PREVENTATIVE OPTIONS INCLUDE FREEZING THE BARRETT'S TISSUE, PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY, OR CUTTING OUT THE TISSUE VIA ENDOSCOPY (EN-DAH-S' -KUH-PEE).

You will probably be nervous, particularly if this is your first attempt at broadcasting. Don't let it worry you - even professionals get butterflies. It's the waiting right before "air time" that will be most difficult; the actual newscast will be a lot easier than you expected. Who knows--if you're not careful you might even enjoy your moment in the spotlight!